

### Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A comparison between a cost required when  
retrieval is performed after an index corresponding to  
a retrieval condition is generated and a cost required  
when entire retrieval is performed is made. If the cost  
required when the entire retrieval is performed is  
higher, it is determined whether or not an applicable  
index exists among already generated indexes. If an  
10 applicable index does not exist, an index corresponding  
to the retrieval condition is generated. A database is  
then retrieved by using the generated index.

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